GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:230
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2002
MALNUTRITION AMONG CHILDREN
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR;TRILOCHAN KANUNGO

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether M.S. Swaminathan Foundation (MSSF) and World Food Programme (W.F.P.) has brought out, recently an Atlas titled `Food Insecurity Atlas of Urban India` mentioning therein that a large number of children in Indian cities suffer from extreme malnutrition;

(b) the names of States where incidence of malnutrition of expectant mothers/children is very high;

(c) if so, the factors responsible for such a situation;

(d) the efforts being made to meet the situation; and

(e) the funds released for the purpose, during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA)

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 230 FOR 4.12.2002

As per publication of M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation and World Food Programme, which is primarily based on the report by National Family Health Survey 1998-99, in the country as a whole only 11.6% of the children less than 3 years old are severely under-weight.

The States where incidence of malnutrition is high are Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar. The main factors that are responsible for severe malnutrition are combination of several factors such as inadequate food, poor socio-economic status leading to low purchasing power, high rate of population growth and low access of population to health services, non-availability of safe drinking water, female illiteracy etc.

Malnutrition is a multi-faceted problem. In this regard, the Government have, interalia, taken various steps to improve agriculture production and the purchasing power of the people through income generating schemes. It also makes available the essential food items at subsidized rates through Public Distribution System.The Government is also implementing a number of schemes like Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid-Day Mea Scheme), Pradhan Mantri Grammodya Yojana etc. for this purpose.The funds released therein during the last three years are indicated below:

1. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

Year	Amount released (Rs. in crores)
1999-2000	880.97
2000-2001	1046.53
2001-2002	1223.65

2. National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid-Day Meal Scheme)

The funds released to Food Corporation of India (FCI) towards the cost of foodgrains is supplied free of cost under this Programme. The details of expenditure are given below:

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in crores)
1999-2000	1500.00
2000-2001	1300.00
2001-2002	1030.27

3. Pradhan Mantri Grammodaya Yojana (PMGY)

Funds released during 2000-01 .. Rs.375 crores
Funds released during 2001-02 .. Rs.443.76 crores

The efforts are also being supplemented through supply of foodgrains to needy States by World Food Programme (WFP), Cooperative for Assistance & Relief Everywhere (CARE) etc.